

BREAKING NEWS FROM
STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE CANAVAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**REPRESENTATIVE CANAVAN, LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION ANNOUNCE
STATE FUNDING TO LOCAL COUNCILS ON AGING**

Increase in per-senior funding nets over \$131K for Brockton, Easton & West Bridgewater

(State House, Boston) – State Representative Christine E. Canavan (D-Brockton) today joined the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and her colleagues to announce a total award of \$131,161 to Councils on Aging (COAs) in the 10th Plymouth District to help support local programs and continue enriching the lives of area seniors.

The funding, awarded to 348 cities and towns across the Commonwealth, comes as part of a formula grant program for local communities approved by the legislature each year. This year, grants were calculated at \$7.00 per senior—an increase from \$6.50 in FY09—based on a municipality's age 60-and-over population.

“As a proud new member of the Brockton Council on Aging, I am pleased to announce these tremendously important grants for our communities which will help allow our older residents to remain active, healthy and social,” said Representative Canavan.

“Councils on Aging have long served as hallmarks in each of our communities, and I’m pleased that while we continue to address the challenges brought on by the decline in the global economy, the state and our local governments continue to make our seniors a well-placed priority,” Canavan continued, adding that she recently celebrated her 60th birthday and she too will now be included in the formula grant equation based on this year’s federal census.

“Our local Councils on Aging provide critical resources and support to area seniors and improve many individuals’ quality of life,” said Senator Brian A. Joyce. “I am very happy that this award amount has been increased this fiscal year.”

Of the \$131,161 in grant funding announced today, the town of West Bridgewater will receive \$10,241 to assist with the costs of programming, supplies, training, dues and van drivers at their Council on Aging. \$19,656 will be used to employ a van driver and provide for equipment and furnishings at the Easton Council on Aging, in addition to helping with costs associated with dues and volunteer recognition activities. The Brockton Council on Aging will also be awarded \$101,264 for education and training seminars, and to assist with the costs associated with building maintenance and supplies, dues, and volunteer appreciation events.

“The Council on Aging in Brockton provides important services for our seniors. I am happy to see that state funding will continue to support these vital programs,” added Brockton Mayor Linda M. Balzotti.

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